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Docket No. FJ-2003-053-US Serial No. 10/774,566 MAS.019

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

Kazuhiko TAKEMURA, et al.

Serial No.:

10/774,566

Group Art Unit:

2622

Filed:

February 10, 2004

Examiner:

Hernandez, Nelson D.

For:

IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS, METHOD, AND

**PROGRAM** 

Honorable Commissioner of Patents Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 through §1.98 and pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicants respectfully bring the following documents cited in the Japanese Office Action in a counterpart foreign application and listed on the attached form PTO-1449, to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application.

This citation does not constitute an admission that the references are relevant or material to the claims. They are only cited as constituting related art of which Applicants are aware.

In compliance with the requirements of 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 35 U.S.C. §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits a translation of portions of an official action by a foreign examiner in which the references were cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the references were cited in a foreign patent application on the same subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the references, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of that country of the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made, the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the foreign examiner's comments submitted herewith. Further, English-Language Abstracts are attached to the refrences.



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I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was the first citation of that item by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, which occurred not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Date:

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Respectfully submitted,

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